Government role in privatised aviation sector

467. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to privatise the aviation sector; and

(b) if so, what will be the future role of Civil Aviation Ministry/Airports Authority of India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Government is encouraging increased private sector participation in the civil aviation sector.

(b) Government will continue to provide appropriate policy, legal and regulatory framework for safe, secure, efficient and widespread air-services. Airports Authority of India would also continue to discharge its present functions, except for privately managed airports where it would be responsible for air traffic control and airport security.

Probe into escalator accident at IGI Airport, Delhi

468. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the committee set up to probe the escalator accident at Indira Gandhi International Airport in December, 1999 has held the airport management and the escalator manufacturer OTIS responsible for the tragedy;

(b) whether the panel has found that the staff at the IGIA lacked alertness and sensitivity in handling the situation; and